

sludge and the vessel environment is controlled to provide an initial anaerobic time period for achieving phosphorous release and denitrification of oxidized nitrogen in the vessel;

followed by a react fill phase having a predetermined duration in which wastewater flow into the vessel continues and the wastewater is exposed to alternating periods of aeration and mixing only to promote completely mixed aerobic and anoxic conditions;

followed by a react discharge phase having a predetermined duration in which wastewater flow into the vessel ceases, the wastewater is exposed to alternating periods of aerobic and anoxic conditions, and during this exposure to alternating periods of aerobic and anoxic conditions; and,

the wastewater is directed to a membrane device to separate suspended solids from the liquid in the wastewater.

9. (New) The process of claim 8 wherein the mix fill phase is completed in about 15 minutes.

10. (New) The process of claim 8 wherein the react fill phase is completed in about 45 minutes.

11. (New) The process of claim 8 wherein the react discharge phase is completed in about 60 minutes.

REMARKS

Pending claims 1-4 and 7 were rejected in the Office Action mailed May 8, 2002, which repeated and maintained the rejections